

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 457

By Harris

A RESOLUTION to posthumously honor Mr. Cupid Douglass for his meritorious military service in the Civil War.

WHEREAS, it is altogether proper that this General Assembly recognize those soldiers gone before, who, with unrivaled bravery, set the standard for thousands of Tennesseans through the ages to continue our time-honored tradition of military service; and

WHEREAS, sadly, many of these soldiers have not received the acknowledgement they deserve for their courageous actions that, ultimately, helped shape the history of our country; and

WHEREAS, one such American soldier who served with courage and gallantry was Mr. Cupid Douglass, who deserves proper recognition for his heroism in our nation's Civil War; and

WHEREAS, born in Madison County, Alabama, in 1836, Cupid Douglass enlisted in the United States Army on November 16, 1863, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Douglass served in Company B of the 17<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry, and was stationed at McMinnville and Murfreesboro during his tour of duty, seeing action with his regiment during the Battle of Nashville on December 16, 1864; and

WHEREAS, his military records state that he was sick in the hospital at Nashville on March 22, 1865, and was mustered out of military service with his regiment on April 25, 1866, following the end of the war; and

WHEREAS, relocating to Illinois after the war, Mr. Douglass received an Army Invalid Pension for his service in the Civil War from February 23, 1907, until his death, and his wife, Caroline Roundtree Douglass, received an Army Widows Pension after his death; and

WHEREAS, today, Mr. Douglass's name is featured on Plaque B-34 on the wall of the National African American Civil War Soldiers Monument in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Cupid Douglass's descendants, including his granddaughter, Thelma Douglas, and great-grandson, Clark E. Douglas, Sr., are especially proud of his distinguished military service with Company B of the 17<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry and hope to see their valorous ancestor receive the recognition he deserves, nearly a century and a half later; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby posthumously honor Mr. Cupid Douglass for his meritorious service in the United States Colored Infantry during the Civil War, extend our gratitude for his dedication to our country, and honor the memory of this great soldier.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.